



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 407**

February Session, 2002

Substitute Senate Bill No. 599

*Senate, April 9, 2002*

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through SEN. LOONEY of the 11th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING A BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON  
PROPERTY TAX BURDENS AND SMART GROWTH INCENTIVES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1      Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a Blue  
2      Ribbon Commission on Property Tax Burdens and Smart Growth  
3      Incentives (1) to evaluate the extent to which there is an unequal local  
4      property tax burden in this state, (2) to conduct a comprehensive study  
5      of alternatives to the current system of property taxation, and (3) to  
6      evaluate incentives for smart growth. On or before January 1, 2003,  
7      said commission shall make a preliminary report to the General  
8      Assembly regarding any findings or recommendations it may have.  
9      Said commission shall make a final report with any such findings or  
10     recommendations on or before January 1, 2004. Such reports shall be  
11     filed in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
12     statutes.

13 (b) Said commission shall have twenty members as follows: (1) Six  
14 members appointed one each by the president pro tempore of the  
15 Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority  
16 leader of the Senate, the majority leader of the House of  
17 Representatives, the minority leader of the Senate and the minority  
18 leader of the House of Representatives, (2) five members appointed by  
19 the Governor, (3) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
20 Management, (4) four members appointed by the Connecticut  
21 Conference of Municipalities, (5) two members appointed by the  
22 Council of Small Towns, (6) one member appointed by the Connecticut  
23 Business and Industry Association, and (7) one member appointed by  
24 the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial  
25 Organizations. All appointments to the commission shall be made  
26 before July 1, 2002.

27 (c) The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the commission shall be  
28 jointly designated by the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and  
29 the Council of Small Towns. The first meeting of the commission shall  
30 be held on or before July 1, 2002.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

**FIN**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### **State Impact:**

<b>Fund-Type</b>	<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>FY 03 \$</b>
GF - Cost	Legislative Mgmt.	Potential Minimal
GF - None	Policy & Mgmt., Off.	None

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

#### **Explanation**

The bill establishes a Blue Ribbon Commission on Property Tax Burdens and Smart Growth Incentives to study certain issues and make recommendations to the General Assembly by January 1, 2003. The bill appoints the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management to serve on the commission, which results in no fiscal impact to the agency. To the extent that members of the General Assembly are appointed to the task force, the Joint Committee on Legislative Management will incur a minimal cost. A total cost of less than \$2,000 may result from mileage reimbursement to legislators in traveling to and from panel meetings, public hearings and regional forums. Legislators are currently reimbursed 36 ½ cents per mile. Considering that legislators may be traveling to and from the capitol on other legislative business, any additional cost due to an increased number of reimbursed trips could be handled within the anticipated budgetary resources of the department.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

sSB 599

**AN ACT CONCERNING A BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON  
PROPERTY TAX BURDENS AND SMART GROWTH INCENTIVES****SUMMARY:**

This bill establishes a 20-member commission to:

1. evaluate the extent of the unequal local property tax burden in the state,
2. study alternatives to the property tax, and
3. evaluate smart growth incentives.

The commission members are appointed by the governor, legislative leaders, the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), the Council of Small Towns (COST), the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA), and the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO). All appointments must be made, and the commission must hold its first meeting, by July 1, 2002. CCM and COST must jointly designate the commission chairman and vice-chairman.

The commission must file a preliminary report with the General Assembly by January 1, 2003, with any findings or recommendations. The commission's final report, with findings and recommendations, must be filed by January 1, 2004.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

The commission consists of the Office of Policy and Management secretary and 19 other members appointed as follows:

Number of members	Appointing Authority
6	One each appointed by the Senate president pro tempore, the House speaker, and the House and Senate

	majority and minority leaders
5	Governor
4	CCM
2	COST
1	CBIA
1	AFL-CIO

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26      Nay 16